IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Patent Application of |) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hisashi HOTTA |) Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| Application No.: Unassigned |) Examiner: Unassigned |
| Filed: April 6, 2001 |) |
| For: PLANOGRAPHIC PRINTING |) |

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned patent application, kindly enter the following amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace Claims 10-17, and add new Claims 10-17, as follows.

10. The planographic printing plate of claim 6, wherein the recording layer comprises a negative recording layer, the negative recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent, compounds that release an acid or radical by heat, and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical.

- 11. The planographic printing plate of claim 7, wherein the recording layer comprises a negative recording layer, the negative recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent, compounds that release an acid or radical by heat, and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical.
- 12. The planographic printing plate of claim 8, wherein the recording layer comprises a negative recording layer, the negative recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent, compounds that release an acid or radical by heat, and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical.
- 13. The planographic printing plate of claim 9, wherein the recording layer comprises a negative recording layer, the negative recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent, compounds that release an acid or radical by heat, and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical.
- 14. The planographic printing plate of claim 6, wherein the recording layer comprises a positive recording layer, the positive recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent and compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by heat.

- 15. The planographic printing plate of claim 7, wherein the recording layer comprises a positive recording layer, the positive recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent and compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by heat.
- 16. The planographic printing plate of claim 8, wherein the recording layer comprises a positive recording layer, the positive recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent and compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by heat.
- 17. The planographic printing plate of claim 9, wherein the recording layer comprises a positive recording layer, the positive recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent and compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by heat.

REMARKS

New Claims 10-17 are presented for consideration.

Early and favorable consideration with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

These changes have been made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as amended on November 7, 2000. Marked-up versions of Claims 10-17 indicating the changes accompany this Preliminary Amendment.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By:

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Date: April 6, 2001

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated April 5, 2001 Marked-up Claims

- 10. The planographic printing plate of claim 6, wherein the recording layer comprises a negative recording layer, the negative recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent, compounds that release an acid or radical by heat, and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical [compounds that release an acid or radical by an infrared absorbing agent or by heat and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical].
- 11. The planographic printing plate of claim 7, wherein the recording layer comprises a negative recording layer, the negative recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent, compounds that release an acid or radical by heat, and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical [compounds that release an acid or radical by an infrared absorbing agent or by heat and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical].
- 12. The planographic printing plate of claim 8, wherein the recording layer comprises a negative recording layer, the negative recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent, compounds that release an acid or radical by heat, and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical [compounds that release an acid or

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radical by an infrared absorbing agent or by heat and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical].

- 13. The planographic printing plate of claim 9, wherein the recording layer comprises a negative recording layer, the negative recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent, compounds that release an acid or radical by heat, and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical [compounds that release an acid or radical by an infrared absorbing agent or by heat and compounds that form crosslinks or polymerize due to the acid or radical].
- 14. The planographic printing plate of claim 6, wherein the recording layer comprises a positive recording layer, the positive recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent and compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by heat [compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by an infrared absorbing agent or by heat].
- 15. The planographic printing plate of claim 7, wherein the recording layer comprises a positive recording layer, the positive recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent and compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by

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bonds thereof decomposing by heat [compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by an infrared absorbing agent or by heat].

- 16. The planographic printing plate of claim 8, wherein the recording layer comprises a positive recording layer, the positive recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent and compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by heat [compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by an infrared absorbing agent or by heat].
- 17. The planographic printing plate of claim 9, wherein the recording layer comprises a positive recording layer, the positive recording layer including an infrared absorbing agent and compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by heat [compounds that become soluble in an alkaline aqueous solution by bonds thereof decomposing by an infrared absorbing agent or by heat].